



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**OLD OAK CLUB, NASHVILLE
RECORDS
1888 - 1994**

Processed by:

Harriet Chappell Owsley, Mary Washington Frazier, *et al.*
Archival Technical Services

Accession Numbers: 168, 330, 337, 338, 349, 350, 446, 584, 599, 601, 623, 635, 676,
807, 855, 1081, 1144, 1161, 1531, 1663, 1702, 1715, 1724, 1748, 1749, 1838, 1847,
1880, 1967.050, 1967.051, 1967.062, 1968.010, 1968.024, 1968.073, 1968.130,
1968.153, 1968.335, 1969.022, 1969.062, 1969.090, 1969.095, 1969.119, 1969.269,
1969.280, 1970.027, 1970.064, 1970.093, etc.

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Date Completed: September 26, 1960

Revised: October 30, 1970

Location: III-B-4, 5, 7; III-J-3; V-M-1

INTRODUCTION

The Old Oak Club of Nashville Records were given to the Manuscript Division by Miss Isabel Howell, daughter of Alfred E. Howell, a member of the club and secretary for many years. Robert McGaw, a member of the club, gave the papers which had been stored in the Alumni Office of Vanderbilt University. Dr. Daniel M. Robison, a member of the club, added several papers to the collection which had been turned over to him by the authors.

The materials in this finding aid measure 3.78 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Old Oak Club Records may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Old Oak Club records, 1888- 1970, are composed of correspondence, clippings, handbooks, programs, minutes, papers ready by members, histories of the club, and several sketches of deceased members.

The club was organized by Herman Justi in November of 1887. The members consisted of a group of his friends who had been associated together in an eating club. Others were added from time to time as vacancies occurred but the membership was limited to twenty-five. The purpose of the club, as given in the constitution, is "for the discussion and investigation of subjects of general interest." This included a wide variety of subjects and although all of the papers read are not in the collection the programs are almost complete from 1888 to 1940. The minutes are also complete for these years with one exception; the period 1892-1901 is missing. Among the papers are histories of the club written by G. H. Baskette, J. T. McGill, and others who failed to sign their sketches. These papers are a fine collection and give an insight into Nashville cultural history.

Papers will continue to be added during the years to follow. Titles and authors will be added to the container list.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1 (III-B-4)

1. Correspondence, 1902-1908
2. Correspondence, 1909
3. Correspondence, 1910-1923
4. Correspondence, 1924
5. Correspondence, 1925
6. Correspondence, 1926-1927
7. Correspondence, 1928-1929
8. Correspondence, 1930-1934
9. Correspondence, 1935-1941
10. Correspondence, 1953-1960
11. Clippings
12. Facts and figures, 1888-1930

Box 2 (III-B-4)

1. Handbooks, 1888-1926
2. Handbooks, 1908-1938
3. Handbook Material, 1908-1935
4. History of the club – Notes, 1888-1918
5. History of the club – Baskette, *et al.*, 1888-1923
6. History of the club – McGill, J. T., 1918
7. Leaders and topics approved for study
8. Memorial to Herman Justi, 1909
9. Notices and miscellaneous papers, 1892-1957
10. Photographs and memorabilia
11. Planting of oak at Robert L. Burch's home, 1916
12. Receipts, 1907-1934
13. Roster and calendars, 1929-1959
14. Sketches – Dake, Walter M., 1923
- 14a. Sketches – Reuben, Ford by Herman Justi
15. Sketches – Hale, George Weeks
16. Sketches – Jackson, Robert F., 1933
17. Sketches – Keeble, John Bell, 1929
18. Sketches – McMurry, Charles Alexander, 1929
19. Sketches -- Rodriquez, Primitivo A.
20. Sketches – Schermerhorn, Holden Bovie, 1935
21. Sketches – Smith, Robert Trimble, 1929
22. Verses by Mrs. W. H. Witt and reply by Alfred E. Howell, 1916

Box 3 (III-B-4)

1. Minutes – Book No. 1, 1888-1892
2. Minutes – Book No. 4, 1901-1910
3. Minutes – Book No. 5, 1910-1921
4. Minutes, attendance records, etc., 1921-1926
5. Minutes, attendance records, etc., 1928-1930
6. Minutes, attendance records, etc., 1930-1935
7. Minutes, attendance records, etc., 1935-1940

Box 4 (III-B-4)

1. Programs, 1892-1910
2. Programs, 1911-1926
3. Programs, 1927-1944

Box 5 (III-B-4)**Papers Presented at the Old Oak Club Meetings**

1. Baird, James H. – “Tripoli,” 1911
2. Barthell, Edward E. – “English Democracy,” 1913
3. Barthell, Edward E. and Alfred E. Howell – “Decade 1850-1860 – Foreshadows of Civil War – The Crisis,” 1907
4. Baskette, G. H. and Alfred E. Howell – “Education,” 1896
5. Baskette, G. H. and Alfred E. Howell – “Railway Rate Regulation,” 1905
6. Burch, Robert – “Memoirs of Prince Linchnowsky,” 1918
7. Burch, Robert and Alfred E. Howell – “Origins and Development of Opera,” 1919
8. Clark, James E. – “Italy in Tripoli,” 1911
9. Clark, Sam L. – “Three Students of Medicine,” 1957
10. Crabb, Alfred L. – “Poor Columbus,” 1957
11. Dake, Walter M. – “Right or Wrong, My Preceptor’s Story”
12. Dake, Walter M. and Alfred E. Howell – “The Puritans, Their Principles and the Puritan Movement,” 1900
13. Glenn, L. C. – “Coal Resources of the South”
14. Glenn, L. C. and Alfred E. Howell – “Our Coal Resources,” 1909
- 14a. Harbison, William J. – “Obscenity and the Law,” 1976
15. Hohlfield, A. R. and Alfred E. Howell – “Richard Wagner,” 1895
16. Howell, Alfred E. – “Gas Company Franchise”
17. Howell, Alfred E. – “Moses,” 1892
18. Howell, Alfred E. – “Police Power,” 1905
19. Howell, Alfred E. – “Psychology,” 1904
20. Howell, Alfred E. – “John Tyndall,” 1894
21. Howell, Alfred E. – “Richard Wagner,” 1911
22. Justi, Herman and Alfred E. Howell – “Henry Clay and the Whig Party,” 1895

Box 6 (III-B-5)

1. Kirkland, J. H. and Alfred E. Howell – “The Unification of Italy,” 1891
2. Little, Charles E. and Alfred E. Howell – “Der Zeitgeist,” 1912
3. McDonald, Hunter and Alfred E. Howell – “German Kultur – Its Theory and Practice,” 1917
- 3a. McGaw, Robert A. – “A Likeness of Alvin York,” 1968
4. McGill, J. T. and Alfred E. Howell – “Munitions – Gases and Steel,” 1919
5. Miller, D. Irving – “The Effect of Traces on Cast Iron and Steel,” 1899
6. Morgan, Henry W. – “The Isthmian Canals”
7. Orr, William F. -- “Information Theory on the Life Process”
8. Parrent, H. Clinton, Jr. – “Old Testament ,” 1959
9. Peyton, John Howe – “Preparedness,” 1915
10. Reeves, Joe – “Teapot Dome,” 1957
11. Robison, Daniel M. – “Planning Tennessee’s State Library and Archives Building,” 1953; notes on Tennessee history
- 11a. Robison, Daniel M. – “Robert Hays, Unsung Pioneer of the Cumberland Country” 1967
12. Smith, R. T. and John DeWitt – “The Career of Mr. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes,” 1928
13. Stubblefield, D. R. and Alfred E. Howell – “Trusts,” 1903
14. Tillman, A. M. and Alfred E. Howell – “Hawaii and its Relations to the United States,” 1893
15. Van Antwerp, Chiles – “To Meet the Shortage ,” 1956
16. Vance, H. A. and Alfred E. Howell – “Benjamin Franklin,” 1899
17. Walker, Curtis H. – “The Death of Amy Robsart: Accident, Suicide, Murder?” 1956
18. Washburn, Frank S. and Alfred E. Howell – “The Isthmian Canal,” 1902
19. Washburn, Frank S. and Alfred E. Howell – “Labor Organizations and the Labor Problem,” 1903
20. Wallace, C. B. and Alfred E. Howell – “Monasticism – The Jesuits,” 1906
- 20a. Windrow, John E. – “The NEA’s Problems, Pressures, Conflicts and Controversies,” 1967
- 20b. Weesner, Richard – “Earthmoving and Earthmovers,” 1968
21. Witt, W. H. and Alfred E. Howell – “India-British India,” 1916
22. Witt, W. H. – “Trip to Europe”

Box 7 (III-B-5)

1. Bowen, Cawthon – “Preservation, of Food, that is,” 1962
- 1a. Bowen, Cawthon – “Nashville, 1980,” 1966
2. Cate, George H., Jr. – “Render Unto Caesar,” 1966
3. Crabb, Alfred L. – “The Literary Value of Homesickness”
- 3a. Crabb, Alfred L. – “The Twelve Men Who Contributed Most to Nashville,” 1966
4. Crabb, Alfred L. – “Medium Well Done,” 1962

5. Harbison, William J. – “Juries and Justice ,” 1962
6. Hughes, Norman M. – “Here’s Proof,” 1962
7. Hughes, Norman M. – “A Matter of Interest,” 1955
8. Hughes, Norman M. – “A Not-so-Minor Problem of the Welfare State,” 1959
9. Hughes, Norman M. – “Social Security After Fifteen Years,” 1951
10. McCulloh, Gerald O. – “The National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA...,” 1964
11. Malone, Thomas H., Jr. – “Lord Chesterfield’s Letters to his Son”
12. Malone, Thomas H., Jr. – “Montaigne’s Essays”
13. Parrent, H. Clinton, Jr. – “To Build a Tower,” 1963
14. Reeves, Joe – “The Public Square,” 1964
- 14a Reeves, Joseph – “Justice with a Pitchfork...,” 1968
15. Robison, Daniel M. – “Bouncers at the Church Door,” 1964
- 15a. Sproffkin, Bertram E. – “High Talk – A Language Barrier,” 1966
16. Stason, E. B. – “The Standard in Medical Malpractice,” 1965
17. Van Antwerp, Chiles – “Education – Focus on Change,” 1965
18. Van Antwerp, Chiles – “Old and Older Oaks,” 1962
19. Vaughan, William H. – “The Assassination of Lincoln,” 1965
20. Vaughan, William H. – “Education in Korea,” 1960
21. Wade, John – “Legal Problems Involved in the Sit-In Demonstrations,” 1961
- 21a. Wade, John Webster – “Good and Bad Samaritans,” 1966
22. Walker, Hugh – “Building a Tennessee Library,” 1962
23. Walker, Hugh – “Tennis,” 1966
24. West, Olin, Jr. – “Caveat Emptor,” 1965
25. Wills, Jesse – “The Revolutions Around Us,” 1965
26. Wright, Joseph – “Big Deal? or Small Beer?” 1968

Box 8 (III-J-3)

1. Minutes – Vol. I, 1940 / 1941 – 1947 / 1948
2. Minutes – Vol. II, 1952 / 1953 – 1959 / 1960

Box 9 (V-M-1)

1. Constitution, by-laws, and history

Papers Presented at the Old Oak Club Meetings

2. Crabb, Alfred L. – “Six Remarkable Women of Nashville,” 1970
3. Hutchison, Albert – “Museums,” 1969
4. McCulloh, Gerald – “A New Image in Theological Education,” 1969
5. Weaver, Herbert – “Poking Through Tennessee During the 1820s and 1830s,” 1969
6. May, J. L. – “Education and Intelligence ,” 1968
7. Sproffkin, Bertram E. – “Aphrodisiacs,” 1970
8. Stearns, Richard G. – “Flint Lock Guns as Practical Weapons,” 1968
9. Van Antwerp, Chiles – “Every Four Years”
10. West, Olin, Jr. – “Aesculapius, 1914,” 1969

Items Separately Wrapped (III-B-7)

1. Photographs of Members of the club, 1896, 1914, 1932, 1941

Addition to Collection – Old Oak Club Papers

Accession Number 91-175

Addition Location: (XII-E-5)

Folders

1. “The Battles of Marathon,” February 28, 1980
2. “Preacher’s Kids,” September, 1978
2. “Beating the System,” April 28, 1983
2. “Major Unanswered Questions,” February 23, 1984
2. “Religion and Ecology: A respectful view of the North American Indians,” March 28, 1985
3. “Das Lied von Der Erde” (Song of the Earth), November 24, 1982
3. “Ms. Revisited,” April 22, 1982
3. “200 Years of Witches-Why,” October 28, 1982
3. “William Trousdale, Governor of Tennessee, 1849–1851,” September 23, 1981
4. “On Determining One’s Position,” September 24, 1981
4. “A Near Ms.” – September 26, 1974
5. “The Mamelukes: Slaves or Sovereigns,” May 23, 1985
5. “This Rude Game,” March 27, 1986
5. “At the Crossroads,” April 24, 1986
6. “Pen and Sword,” September 25, 1986
6. “The Renaissance Discovery of the Real,” September 26, 1985
6. “Another Look at Pearl Harbor,” October 23, 1986

6. "The Ultimate Penalty," January 22, 1987
6. "A Revolutionary in Nashville, Dr. Oswald T. Avery," March 26, 1987
6. "Draft Riots of the '60s, TET, and the Battle of Nashville," May 28, 1987

Addition – 1989

7. "Mortain and the Oracle at Bletchley," by Joe Thompson, Jr. – 1988
7. "Stay at Home, Joe," by Walter T. Durham – 1988
7. "Though Love," by Cawthon A. Bowen, Jr. – 1988
7. "The Plain People," by Charles B. Thorne – 1989
8. "Pygmies, Jungle, Heat and Lions," by Robert E. McNeilly, Jr., –1989
8. "The Crash of '87," by William E. Turner, Jr. – 1989
8. "Westward Ho in Three Movements: The Beginnings and Trauma of the Mormons," by Olin West, Jr. – 1989
8. "Some memories of a Nashville Boyhood," by Robert A. McGaw –1989
9. "A Damp, Drizzley November in My Soul," by Emmett B. Fields – Dec 6, 1990
9. "Doing Time in the Greenhouse," by Robert D. Collins – Feb 28, 1991
9. "The Prints and the Pauper" by Joseph L. May – April 25, 1991
9. "Hizzoner Mayor McGavock," by Jack Allen – May 23 – 1991
9. "I Met Ed Crump," by Joseph E. Wright – Oct 24, 1991
9. "Prisoners of Myth," by Erwin Hargrove – April 23, 1992
9. "Three Rs, Xs, and Os," by Cawthon A. Bowen – Sept 24, 1992
9. "Hume-Fogg Remembered," by Robert A. McGaw – 2, 1992
10. "Will Ye Nae Come Back Again," by Robert E. McNeilly, Jr. – Jan 28, 1993
10. "Two Examinations, One in Trig..." by James H. Sandlin – Feb 25, 1993
10. "Impairment Among Professionals: A Program for Its Management," by Charles B. Thorne – April 22, 1993
10. "The Minimum Minority: The Mysterious Melungeons ," by Olin West, Jr. – May 27, 1993
10. "Rugby Anyone?" by Bertram Sproffkin – Sept 23, 1993
10. "A Boy Lawyer Gets Into Politics," by Ward DeWitt, Jr. – Oct 28, 1993
10. "If I Were Dean..." by Robinson Neil Bass – Dec 2 1993

Addition to Collection – Old Oak Club Papers

Accession Number 94-030

Addition Location: (XII-E-5)

Folders

1. “Dine Bikeyeh to Okinawa,” by Robert S. Brandt – Jan 27, 1994
2. “How the West Was Won – Between the Rivers,” by W. G. Holladay – Feb 24, 1994
3. “Politics and Laughter,” by Harry H. Ransom – March 24, 1994
4. “Semper Fi and All That: A Marine Corps Memoir,” by Robert A. McGaw – April 28, 1994
5. “Ghosts of Academe (Medical): Past and Future,” by Robert D. Collins, M. D. – June 1, 1994
6. List – Members – Old Oak Club – 1960-1994
7. List – Papers Presented – Old Oak Club – 1937-1994